

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TC/A.U. 3761

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-34 (canceled)

Claim 35 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 1,~~ An absorbent device adapted to deliver a therapeutic agent to a user, the device comprising:

a body having a proximal end and a distal end and adapted to be positioned entirely within the user, the body including

an absorbency zone adjacent the distal end, wherein the absorbency zone includes absorbent material;

an application zone adjacent the proximal end and spaced apart from the distal end, wherein the application zone has a surface; and

a formulation including a therapeutic agent positioned substantially adjacent the surface within the application zone, wherein the formulation including a therapeutic agent includes a hydrogel material or a foam component.

Claims 36-47 (canceled)

Claim 48 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 44,~~ A method for producing a device for delivering a therapeutic agent to a user, the method comprising:

manufacturing a tampon having a body with a distal end, a proximal end, an absorbency zone adjacent the distal end, and an application zone adjacent the proximal end, wherein the body is adapted to be positioned entirely within the user, wherein the application zone has a surface, and wherein the manufacturing act includes manufacturing the body from a material; and

locating a formulation including a therapeutic agent substantially adjacent the surface within the application zone, including, and wherein the locating act includes applying the formulation including a therapeutic agent to the material before the body is manufactured.

Claims 49-54 (canceled)

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Claim 55 (previously presented): An absorbent device adapted to deliver a therapeutic agent, the device comprising:

- a body having a proximal end and a distal end, the body including
 - an absorbency zone adjacent the distal end, wherein the absorbency zone includes absorbent material;
 - an application zone adjacent the proximal end and spaced apart from the distal end, wherein the application zone has a surface, and wherein the application zone consists essentially of non-absorbent material; and
 - a formulation including a therapeutic agent positioned substantially adjacent the surface within the application zone.

Claim 56. (previously presented): A method for producing a device for delivering a therapeutic agent, the method comprising:

- manufacturing a tampon having a body with a distal end, a proximal end, an absorbency zone adjacent the distal end, and an application zone adjacent the proximal end, wherein the application zone has a surface;
- compressing the body; and
- locating a formulation including a therapeutic agent substantially adjacent the surface within the application zone after the body is compressed.